

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Weather: Temperatures were cooler than normal for most of the State. High temperatures ranged from 70 degrees in Brookings to 97 degrees in both Rome and Medford. Very little rainfall was received across the State, as southwest valleys and southeast Oregon didn't receive any precipitation. Only trace amounts of precipitation were received along the coast, in the Willamette Valley, and central Oregon. With the exception of coastal areas and the Willamette Valley, all weather stations have received less precipitation than normal for the season.

Field Crops: Grain harvest started winding down in Sherman County and was just getting started in Baker and Klamath counties. Some damage was reported in Klamath County to the second growth of alfalfa from smoke and the lack of sun. In Union County, dryland wheat yields were down 30-40%. Grass seed harvest was winding down and peppermint harvest was underway. Grain harvest was ongoing in the Willamette Valley. Mint harvest was getting started. Grass seed harvest continued in most of the valley. It was winding down in Polk and Washington counties. Sugarbeets for seed harvest was underway in Marion County. Red clover was in full bloom in Marion County and windrowing was started in Washington County.

Vegetables: Klamath County potatoes were reported 1% knocked down and 2% turning and in Union County seed potatoes were nearly ready to harvest. In the Willamette Valley, fresh and processed vegetables were being harvested. It was very busy in processed snap bean and sweet corn fields as those crops were harvested and sent to the processors. Washington County reported potato harvest continued, onions near pulling stage and tomatoes were ripening.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nursery operators are in a summer maintenance mode with lots of irrigating. Greenhouses are starting fall plants. Easter lily growers continued to prepare beds for planting. Some early fall plants starting to show up in retail outlets. The Farwest nursery show in Portland on August 22 to 24 is only two weeks away.

Fruit: Willamette Valley fruit and berry harvest continued. Those harvested included peaches, early apples, raspberries, blackberries, and blueberries. Growers in the lower Hood River Valley prepared for the upcoming Bartlett pear harvest. Yamhill County tart cherry growers finished the tart cherry harvest. Leaf tissue analysis was taken in all orchard crops. The main infection period for Lophodermium twig blight ended for the southern Oregon coast. Jackson County Bartlett pear harvest should begin soon; some fire blight problems reported. Josephine County fruit growers struggled with low yields.

Livestock Range and Pasture: Across most of the State, range and pasture conditions continued to decline with the ongoing lack of rainfall and the high temperatures. At the extreme, Jackson County reported 95% very poor. Overall, livestock was reported as being in good-to-excellent condition, with most counties reporting that supplemental feeding had begun. Jackson County reported that spring calves were ready to be weaned and were in good condition.

Crop Progress Week Ending 8/11/2002

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Barley harvested (%)	70	61	53	48
Spring wheat harvested (%)	56	50	64	n.a.
Winter wheat harvested (%)	85	70	76	71
Days suitable for fieldwork ^{1/}	6.8	6.8	n.a.	n.a.

^{1/} Fraction indicates that conditions vary by locale.
na= not available.

Soil Moisture Week Ending 8/4/2002

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	45	36	19	--
Subsoil (%)	46	35	19	--

Range & Pasture Condition Week Ending 8/11/2002

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Range & Pasture %	21	28	38	13	--

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service

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CLACKAMAS: Winter wheat harvest ongoing. Haying complete except irrigated alfalfa. Marionberry picking nearly completed. Evergreen harvest beginning. Green bean and sweet corn harvests underway. Summer vegetables available for local markets. Nursery operators are in a summer maintenance mode with lots of irrigating. Livestock are still in good condition, with supplemental feeding starting. Rain of significant proportions would be welcomed by most farmers.

COOS/CURRY: Topsoil moisture estimates: 20% very short, 80% short in both Coos and Curry counties. Seven days were suitable for fieldwork in both counties during the week. Blueberries continued to be marketed especially from sites near the coast. In cranberries, the main infection period for Lophodermium twig blight ended. Some cranberry growers were gearing up to sample leaf tissue during the period August 15 through September 15. Easter lily growers continued to prepare beds for planting. Dry weather continued. Inland wildfires were a concern. Brookings-Harbor was much warmer with better air circulation and slightly more sunshine, but average relative humidity was down to 71%, which is low for the coast; Bandon was little changed from the previous week. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 57.1 to 61.8 deg F; highs ranged from 67.5 to 95.1 and lows ranged from 44.3 to 46.3 deg F. Precipitation was zero. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 53 GDD at Bandon to 87 GDD at Brookings-Harbor.

JACKSON: Grain harvest continued. Second cutting of hay being made. Some third cutting of alfalfa being done. Bartlett pears are about ready for harvest. Some problems with fire blight. Irrigation being done as fruit sizes. Vineyards looked good. Wild blackberries ripe. Vegetables being taken to market. Greenhouses starting fall plants. Nurseries irrigating. Livestock good to excellent if on irrigated land. Range and pasture 95% very poor, 5% poor. Higher ranges very dry. Spring calves about ready to be weaned and look good. Smoke from wild fires covering the area.

JOSEPHINE: A week of cooler temperatures. Truck gardens continued harvesting and selling. Hay down again. Second cutting was lighter even on irrigated acres. Just too hot to grow grass. Most fruits are producing reduced yields, some none at all. The weather came back with extreme temperatures the last three days and extremely smokey.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: Grass seed harvest continued. Mint harvest started. Peach harvest continued. Early apples being harvested. Strawberry harvest dwindling. Raspberries nearing end. Blackberry harvest looked nice. Blueberry had moderate harvest, but nice size. Green bean and corn being harvested on small acreage. Greenhouse & nursery crops slowing down.

MARION: Harvest continued on grass seed and cereal grain crops. Wheat yields reported from fair to good, a few high yields on winter wheat reported. Sugarbeet seed harvest getting underway. Red clover fields in full bloom. Mint harvest getting started late this week or early next. Grass seed, wheat, and small grain harvest continues. Vegetable seed crops are being swathed. Ground preparation is beginning for fall seeded crops. Vegetable harvest in full swing.

POLK: Grass seed harvest winding up with yields average or slightly below. Grain still being harvested especially spring oats and wheat. Yields on fall grains good but spring grains showing effects of earlier hot weather. Showers at first of week were spotty but slowed harvest for some areas. Pastures continuing to decline as weather heats up and rainfall decreases. Most livestock requiring supplemental feed unless pastures are irrigated. Peaches, blueberries, sweet corn, beets and beans available on local stands and early varieties of apples ripening.

WASHINGTON: Windrowing of Red clover started on some acres. Field corn setting ears. Grass for seed nearly done. Third cutting alfalfa starting. Blueberries nearly finished. Some hazelnut drop. Walnuts filled. Onions nearing pulling stage. Potato harvest continued. Sweet corn being sent to processor. Tomatoes ripening. Snap beans continued to be irrigated and sent to processor. Nurseries irrigating. Supplemental feeding being done. Cooler days and 44 degree nights for three days during the week. Winter wheat harvest looking good.

YAMHILL: Tart cherry harvest is finishing up. Leaf tissue analysis is being taken in all orchard crops.

Eastern Oregon

BAKER: Grain harvest just getting started. Potatoes sizing well. Livestock good. Range and pasture 50% poor, 20% good, 30% excellent. All lower ranges dried up. Upper timbered country still looks pretty good. Scattered frosts several mornings, but no significant damage reported.

DESCHUTES: Winter wheat harvest underway. Grass seed harvest was finishing.

HOOD RIVER: Lower Hood River Valley growers preparing for Bartlett pear harvest.

KLAMATH: Grain harvest started. Some damage reported to second growth alfalfa from the smoke and lack of sun. Second cutting hay continued. Potatoes 1% knocked down and 2% turning. Frost in the colder areas early in the week.

LAKE: Temperatures have cooled some to the mid 80's. Most of the fires have been contained in the county. A little less smokey, but there are still chances of more fires before fall since it's so dry. The second cutting of alfalfa is completed. Range and pasture are in fair to poor condition. Livestock looked good.

MORROW: Livestock fair. Range and pasture 50% poor, 50% fair. It has cooled down and we did get just a little rain. Not enough to do any good other than help with fires.

SHERMAN: Harvest continued, winding down on the north end. South end a little behind because growers spent so much time fighting fires. Yields generally down from average, but more so in higher producing areas while mid- to low range yield areas are much closer to average. Those finished with harvest are working on Russian thistles. Livestock good. Range and pasture 10% very poor, 50% poor, 40% fair. Some high numbers of grasshoppers reported in small areas. Marketing strategies changing as wheat prices tipped the \$4 line; still not much selling activity but lots of positioning within the market for downside protection.

UNION: Dryland wheat yields are down 30%-40%. Continued hot and dry. Grass seed harvest nearly complete and grain harvest almost half done. Peppermint harvest well underway. Second cutting of alfalfa nearly complete. A large percentage of the residue from grass seed production acreage has been baled off. Sweet cherry harvest is complete. Seed potatoes are nearly ready to harvest. Night temperatures that reached into the mid-to-low thirties last week frosted some potatoes.

WALLOWA: Cool temperatures, including light frost in some locations, through the early part of the week. Warming trend towards the end of the week. Dryland grain is nearing harvest. Irrigation water is still adequate.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING August 11, 2002 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria	46	81	60	-2	72	-5	0.01	-0.21	1	66.98	1.57	102	192
Brookings	46	70	57	-4	50	-19	0.03	-0.21	2	72.28	0.59	101	142
Newport	46	79	62	5	85	36	0.00	-0.21	0	52.14	-18.85	73	156
North Bend	46	73	58	-3	58	-12	0.00	-0.16	0	60.09	-2.49	96	153
Tillamook	40	82	60	1	69	6	0.02	-0.28	1	87.09	-0.24	100	196
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	41	91	66	-1	116	-3	0.00	-0.14	0	32.40	-9.65	77	126
Eugene	41	90	64	-5	102	-24	0.00	-0.20	0	35.74	-12.83	74	143
Hillsboro	42	89	63	-4	93	-22	0.00	-0.21	0	37.87	1.07	103	150
McMinnville	43	90	64	-3	103	-16	0.03	-0.11	1	39.05	-3.59	92	153
Portland	54	88	68	-2	127	-6	0.00	-0.21	0	36.57	1.07	103	157
Salem	46	89	66	-3	111	-9	0.00	-0.14	0	40.74	2.13	106	142
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	45	96	66	-7	113	-41	0.00	-0.07	0	25.29	-5.35	83	100
Medford	43	97	68	-7	127	-39	0.00	-0.08	0	16.18	-2.28	88	98
Roseburg AP	47	94	70	0	120	-20	0.00	-0.12	0	27.47	-4.76	85	121
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	39	89	59	-8	67	-49	0.01	-0.13	1	9.97	-3.59	74	96
Heppner	44	94	65	-6	109	-31	0.00	-0.14	0	9.86	-3.56	73	91
Hermiston AP	43	95	68	-6	129	-32	0.04	-0.03	1	6.38	-2.29	74	64
John Day AP	39	92	63	-7	93	-40	0.04	-0.17	1	7.98	-4.70	63	97
Moro	40	89	60	-9	72	-58	0.00	-0.07	0	9.10	-1.66	85	67
Pendleton AP	44	92	68	-7	126	-38	0.00	-0.09	0	9.42	-2.20	81	93
The Dalles	50	95	70	4	144	24	0.00	-0.07	0	10.62	-1.50	88	94
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	37	88	58	-6	60	-38	0.00	-0.14	0	7.96	-3.34	70	65
Burns	31	94	59	-7	67	-44	0.02	-0.12	1	7.36	-2.16	77	73
Klamath Falls	37	90	60	-9	73	-53	0.00	-0.14	0	13.04	-0.06	100	88
Lakeview	33	90	60	-8	70	-46	0.00	-0.10	0	7.44	-7.78	49	63
Redmond	33	92	60	-7	71	-43	0.00	-0.12	0	6.07	-2.11	74	71
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	34	91	59	-9	67	-54	0.08	-0.13	2	7.34	-2.90	72	97
Joseph	41	85	59	-3	68	-10	0.02	-0.19	1	16.49	-7.57	69	134
La Grande	37	91	62	-9	85	-55	0.03	-0.18	2	8.26	-8.56	49	69
Union Exp Stn	38	92	61	-7	80	-43	0.14	-0.05	1	10.99	-2.12	84	103
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	47	95	70	-7	143	-37	0.00	-0.07	0	5.65	-3.70	60	74
Rome	36	97	63	-9	94	-57	0.00	-0.07	0	3.34	-4.56	42	40

Summary based on NWS (National Weather Service) data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Saturday, September 1, 2001

DFN=Departure from normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA=Data Unavailable.

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Oregon Crop Weather 20-2002

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